

## Stop Signs

Stop signs are installed at an intersection only after a careful engineering evaluation of the existing conditions indicates that their installation is appropriate. The purpose of stop signs and traffic signals is to assign right-of-way at an intersection, not to control speeding.



Experience has shown that simply improving the intersection visibility by prohibiting parking near the intersection is often more effective in reducing traffic collisions and reduce the need for more restrictive intersection controls.

Unwarranted stop signs breed disrespect by motorists who tend to ignore them or only slow down without stopping. There is no real evidence to indicate that stop signs decrease the overall speed of traffic. Impatient drivers view the additional delay caused by unwarranted stop signs as “lost time” to be made up by driving at higher speeds between stop signs. Stop signs also increase fuel consumption as well as air and noise pollution.

Some of the criteria the City considers for the installation of all-way stop signs at intersections are as follows:

1. Traffic volume on both minor and major streets.
2. Number of pedestrians crossing the streets.
3. Collisions considered correctable by all-way stop sign installation.

If you have any questions regarding the information above or you would like to request a stop sign installation, please contact the Transportation Engineering Division please contact the Transportation Engineering Division by completing an [online form](#) or by calling 510-494-4745.